

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 829

By Brown

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor the late James "Jim" D. Phifer upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is the late James "Jim" D. Phifer, who devoted many years to the education and instruction of young students and athletes; in March 2006, Mr. Phifer will be inducted into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, a most befitting recognition of his outstanding service to Tennessee schools and athletics; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Phifer was the Head Coach of Golf at Chattanooga City High School from 1967-1972 and Notre Dame High School from 1973-1990; his career record was 556 wins against only 64 losses, an amazing .897 winning percentage; and

WHEREAS, Jim Phifer is fourth on the National All-Time Golf Coaching Victories List and first on the Tennessee All-Time Golf Coaching Victories List; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Mr. Phifer was a two-time nominee for the National High School Golf Coach of the Year and six-time Scrappy Moore Award recipient as Golf Coach of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Jim Phifer won three Tennessee State Championships (1970, 1972, 1985), three Tennessee State Runners-Up Titles (1974, 1975, 1984), ten region tournament championships, nine district tournament championships, and eleven city prep regular season championships; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Phifer was also Head Coach of Basketball at Chattanooga City High School from 1960-1970 and Notre Dame High School from 1972-1976 and 1992-1994; and

WHEREAS, Jim Phifer was Basketball Coach of the Year on three separate occasions, and he claimed two region championships and four district championships; and

WHEREAS, during his estimable tenure as head coach, the Chattanooga High School basketball team defeated Riverside 60-58 in overtime on the road to end the nation's longest winning streak and Tennessee's state record winning streak at 66 games; and

WHEREAS, a tireless professional, Mr. Phifer served as Assistant Football Coach (1959-1969), Head Boy's Basketball Coach (1960-1970), Head Boy's Golf Coach (1967-1972), Athletic Director (1965-1970), Dean of Students (1962-1964), Assistant Principal (1964-1970), and Principal (1970-1972) at Chattanooga City High School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Phifer joined the Notre Dame High School staff in 1972, working as Head Boy's Basketball Coach (1972-1976 and 1992-1994), Head Boy's Golf Coach (1973-1990), Assistant Football Coach (1972-1974), Athletic Director (1973-1974), and Principal (1974-1992); he was the first non-priest to become a principal of a secondary Catholic School in the Diocese of Nashville, and he retired in 1995 after many years of dedicated service to the youth of the great State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Phifer served as a member of the TSSAA Legislative Council from 1971-1973 and 1980-1995, and he served as Vice President from 1992-1995; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Jim Phifer was inducted into the Chattanooga Old Timers Sports Hall of Fame in 1998 and has been appointed to the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels; he also received the 1993 Guy Francis Award in recognition of his service to others; and

WHEREAS, the Jim Phifer Alzheimer's Charity Golf Classic was first held in 1998, and the 2005 event raised more than \$50,000 for charities; and

WHEREAS, the Jim Phifer Award for Outstanding Achievement in Golf, the James D. Phifer Spirit of Notre Dame Scholarship, and the Jim Phifer Service Award are all given to memorialize the tremendous and dedicated life of Jim Phifer; and

WHEREAS, Jim Phifer epitomized the commitment and spirit that are characteristic of all true Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, for the above accomplishments, his impeccable moral standards, and impressive work ethic, the late James "Jim" D. Phifer has been selected for induction into the TSSAA Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Jim Phifer, a man of true character and commitment, exemplified the type of selfless community servant and civic leader whom fellow Tennesseans admire for their tireless efforts in molding the State's youth, guiding them with solid principals and high standards whether on the athletic fields or in the classroom; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we recognize and honor the late Mr. James "Jim" D. Phifer upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame and memorialize his life of service to the youth of this great State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.